## Message Text

## CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PEKING 00960 120618Z ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-07 SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 PM-05 DRC-01 /129 W

-----093544 120621Z /17/21

R 110107Z APR 78 FM USLO PEKING TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0374 INFO AMEMBASSY BONN AMCONSUL HONG KONG AMEMBASSY LONDON AMEMBASSY MOSCOW AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL PEKING 0960

CORRECTED COPY (E.O. AND TAGS LN CORRECTED)

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2 TAGS: ENRG CH CA

SUBJ: CANADIAN TALKS WITH CHINESE ON NUCLEAR POWER

1. DURING THE RECENTLY COMPLETED SINO-CANADIAN JOINT TRADE COMMISSION TALKS, HELD IN PEKING ON MARCH 27-29, THE CHINESE RAISED THE ISSUE OF POSSIBLE PURCHASE OF THE CANDU PRESSURIZED HEAVY WATER REACTOR. ONE OF THE JTC DELEGATION MEMBERS AND A CANADIAN EMBASSY OFFICER STATIONED IN PEKING INDICATED THAT THE NSALEAR QUESTION WAS DISCUSSED ONLY IN SUPERFICIAL TERMS.

2. ACCORDING TO THE EMBOFF, THE CHINESE LED OFF BY STATING THAT THEY HAD BEEN APPROACHED BY A CANADIAN FIRM. (COMMENT: SOURCE INDICATED THAT THE EMBASSY WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY SUCH APPROACH AND CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PEKING 00960 120618Z

CONTACT MAY HAVE BEEN MADE THROUGH AN AGENT OR OTHER THIRD PARTY.) THE CHINESE STATED THAT OTHER (UNSPECIFIED) COUNTRIES HAD ALSO OFFERED TO SELL THEM NUCLEAR REACTORS.

3. THE CANADIANS APPARENTLY DESCRIBED THE CANDU SYSTEM IN GENERAL TERMS AND POINTED OUT THAT SALE WOULD BE CONDITIONED ON CHINESE ACCEPTANCE OF COMPREHENSIVE SAFEGUARDS. THE

CANADIANS SUGGESTED THAT THE CHINESE FAMILIARIZE THEMSELVES WITH THESE SAFEGUARDS BEFORE ANY DETAILED SICUSSSIONS WERE HELD. THEY APNO POINTED OUT THAT CHINA'S NON-ADHERENCE TO THE NPT WOULD BE A PROBLEM. THE CHINESE REPLIED BY STATING THEIR STANDARD POSITIONS ON SAFEGUARDS AND THE NPT. WOODCOCK

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

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Disposition Event:
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